

JEWISH OBSERVER
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KURDISTAN:
First Eye-witness
Report From
Inside Iraq

THE TRUE STORY OF
THE "UPRISING"

PAGES 4 - 5

COMMENT

U.N. WITHOUT HAMMARSKJOLD

The United Nations assembled this week in New York for its 16th regular session under the mushroom cloud drifting in from the Arctic and under the black shadow of Dag Hammarskjöld's tragic death. Before it lies an agenda which will now include the appointment of a successor to the Secretary-General, the Congo crisis, the threatening situation in Berlin, consideration of disarmament and the ending once more of nuclear tests, and a large number of other urgent questions on which the Assembly will have to take decisions. Mr. Hammarskjöld's annotated agenda, which he issued before he left for the Congo, runs to ninety-three items.

However, there was already a noticeable tendency before Mr. Hammarskjöld's death to turn away from the lesser problems and to argue that they are of little consequence against the background of the larger problems of Berlin, the Congo and nuclear testing. In one sense this may be true, in another it could be dangerously misleading. It is this that concerns us particularly, for this is a danger against which Mr. Hammarskjöld's presence repeatedly protected the international community. He never lost sight of the fact that the so-called secondary problems might become a more immediate menace to world peace than the greater issues on which the powers clashed.

* * *

He, therefore, never overlooked the Middle East, or South-East Asia, or the Congo as far more likely centres of spreading trouble than the more obvious places like Berlin. It would be just as well if we kept our eyes fixed not only on the three major questions but also on the ninety lesser problems before this session of the United Nations.

But, before we do so, it would be of service if the Assembly clarified the one new issue with which Mr. Hammarskjöld was concerned when he met his death: the principles surrounding the U.N. decision to intervene with force in Katanga. We are not concerned here with the legal position, nor with the detailed circumstances which led Dr. Conor O'Brien to embark on violent intervention. These are matters which the Assembly will have to sort out. From the evidence made available on both sides, it is difficult to reach a balanced conclusion at this stage.

But what has become important is that the nature of Dr. O'Brien's intervention should not become a

dangerous if false precedent and, especially, that it should not be misunderstood as such—as has already happened in Egypt. The Cairo press—and some of Dr. O'Brien's Anglo-Irish apologists—have already jumped to the conclusion that the Katanga operation will become the precedent for the enforcement of U.N. decisions. The Cairo papers say in effect that what happened in Katanga yesterday may happen in Israel tomorrow. The Anglo-Irish apologia for O'Brien (though we have no evidence that this reflects his own views; in fact, we rather doubt it) is rather more subtle and much more dangerous in its implications.

* * *

This argues that the death of a few hundred Katangans is justified because it may save thousands who would be the victims in a later conflict if Katanga remained subdued. The possible applications of this specious argument are so many that one shudders to think of the doctrine thus enunciated. But enough has been said, done and asserted in the name of the United Nations' intervention with force to make sure that no misunderstanding should in future surround such a contemplated action. Mr. Hammarskjöld would certainly have cleared it up. It is now a matter to be settled by the Assembly—before it is too late.

In a different context, one must hope that the serious character of the major problems facing the Assembly will not be made an excuse for not settling the seemingly less serious ones. One of these, the Palestine Arab refugee problem, ranks as Number 25 on Mr. Hammarskjöld's agenda, and it is followed immediately by the question of the U.N. Emergency Force in Gaza and on the Egyptian frontier with Israel. Neither problem will be made any easier by further delay in tackling it. In fact, the refugee problem is becoming increasingly internationalised and a regular item at neutralist conferences.

* * *

The Assembly might therefore take up the offer made by the Israel Foreign Minister in her New Year message. Mrs. Meir undertook to enter into conversations with the Arab countries "without prior conditions" and without a general peace settlement, in order "to clarify the question of the Palestine Arab refugees". This is a very considerable concession on the part of the Israel Government and, if the Assembly means to break this over-long deadlock, here is a way which should be acceptable to all. There could not be a finer tribute to Hammarskjöld than such a new initiative inspired by the memory of the great servant the international community has lost this week.

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ISRAEL

IMPROVED COALITION PROSPECTS

MAPAI'S COUP BREAKS THE LONG-JAM

from our own correspondent

Jerusalem, Thursday:

Whether it be only a sprat to catch a mackerel, or even a small red herring, Mapai's announcement on the eve of the Day of Atonement that she would appear with Poale Agudat Israel in a common parliamentary bloc—a not insignificant coup—was sufficient to move the political log-jam which threatened to bar the way to the formation of a new government.

With Poale Agudat Israel's support, Mapai would command 48 Knesset seats against 46 held by the Liberals, Mapam, Ahdut Avoda and the National Religious Party, the other contenders for coalition partnership.

Thus strengthened, Mapai's negotiators entered into today's talks with the four parties armed with a new optimism. But on the other side, too, there seemed a fresh willingness to get the political manoeuvrings over with and settle the outlines of a workable administration.

Absolute secrecy demanded: The four-party bloc has stated that a new government should present itself to the Knesset on October 9. They are hopeful, it seems, of achieving a compromise on several points. One of their main demands, that a parliamentary commission should have supervisory powers over the defence establishment, has been partly met by Mapai's agreement to a special ministerial committee with limited powers.

In return, Mapai will probably demand that members of the committee observe absolute secrecy on such information as may come into their possession, and not report it to their party organisations. Mapam ministers, for example, are at present under an obligation to report the contents of every Cabinet and committee meeting to the inner circle of their polit-bureau.

The four parties interpret Levi Eshkol's insistence on Mapai's "power of decision" within the Cabinet as meaning that portfolios will be distributed evenly between all the coalition partners, with the Prime Minister having a casting vote. To this, they are prepared to agree.

Mizrachi claims treasury: It is when the negotiators get down to discussing the



MAPAI'S JOSEPH TAL
Reflecting the new optimism

actual portfolios each party is to receive that the real trouble will begin. Mapai has absolutely no intention, as the Liberals have demanded, of giving up the Foreign Ministry. It is known that Abba Eban, for one, would not stay in the Cabinet five minutes if Golda Meir were to be ousted from this position in favour of a non-Mapai nominee.

Another demand to which Mapai is unlikely to accede is the National Religious Party claim to the Treasury. As part of a compromise, however, the Religious are likely to receive another important economic ministry.

Several other demands likely to be the subject of compromise include the Liberal call for the nationalisation of Kupat Holim, the Histadrut Sick Fund. Instead, the government will probably include in its programme promise of a countrywide hospital plan not based on Kupat Holim. This would satisfy both Mapai, which is not opposed in principle to a national health service, and Mapam and Ahdut Avoda which are opposed to any fragmentation of Histadrut services.

Still many obstacles: This leaves out of consideration the six party (Liberals, National Religious, Mapam, Ahdut Avoda, Aguda and Herut) proposals for constitutional reforms upon which eventual agreement may yet founder.

Another stumbling block is the continuing distaste in a section of the Mapai hierarchy for renewed partnership with Mapam and Ahdut Avoda. It is by no means unlikely that the eventual coalition will consist of Mapai, the Liberals, the National Religious Party and Poale Agudat Israel.

INSIDE IRAQ

FIRST EYE-WITNESS REPORT FROM KURDISTAN

KASSEM BRINGS BACK THE OLD GANG

from our own correspondent

Sulaimaniya, mid-September (delayed):

Persistent reports since the beginning of this year from hostile Arab sources of a mass Kurdish uprising against the regime of General Kassem are not true.

What is in fact happening, as I have been able to ascertain for myself during the last few days, is an intensification and territorial extension of the struggle which has gone on for centuries between the central government and the Kurdish tribes which inhabit the 450-mile long border region with Persia.

Repeated forays have been made by government troops with the purpose of eroding the Kurdish hold. None has been successful. The government campaign was stepped up some months ago when Mulla Mustafa, pro-communist leader of the Barzani tribe, withdrew his support from General Kassem (and forfeited a government pension).

Direct aid from Russia: He did so after becoming convinced that Kassem was no longer interested in promoting a separate Kurdish state and that, on the contrary, he was determined to weld the Kurds and the Arabs into one nation.

Barzani went back to Russia, from where he had returned after the revolution. But now he is back in Kurdish country, with promises of increased support from outside. He receives men (Kurds), money and advice direct from the Russians. Other aid comes from the Syrian communist leader, Khalid Bakdash, who has his headquarters in Prague, from the U.A.R., and through special contacts with the Persian pro-Soviet Tudeh Party in Kermanshah and its agents in Mahabad.

To get into Kurdish country involves an elaborate journey along mountain-pass roads. The system of communications has obviously been built up over a millennium in order to guard against intrusion.

Armed assault is a virtual impossibility—as a strong detachment of the Iraqi Fifth Division ("Kassem's Own" as it might be called) recently discovered. Not only was it unable to carry out the task assigned to it, but

the officers and men were relieved of their arms and ordered back home by the defending Kurds.

Rival tribes: But the Kurds are not only on the defensive against the government forces. They are also wary of each other. There is no such thing as a homogeneous Kurdish movement and the Barzani party which goes by the name of the Kurdish Democrats is, as I discovered, only a label for a very small portion of the Kurdish community. In fact, this label can be most misleading.

There are two main divisions in the point of tribal rivalries: the Barzanis and the Barzinjis, who have their centre here in Sulaimaniya. These have been rivals for a long time. Mustafa has claimed "kingship" on many occasions and is continuing to do so.

Over and above all this tribal dissension, there is a school of theorists, with their headquarters here, who are out for autonomy in a purely constitutional manner and are anxious to modernise the state of Kurdistan socially, economically, politically and culturally.

They are aware of their economic weaknesses and for this reason would seek some kind of tie-up with Iraq which would not destroy Kurdish separatism in other fields. But they are an awfully long way from this ambition, as close inspection reveals.

By many other names: Even Kurdistan has a hollow ring about it when contemplated from the centre of Iraqi Kurdish activities. The Persians, for example, use the name Kurdistan for a small part of their country, but not for all the Kurds by any means. The Turks call them simply "mountain Turks".

There is not even properly speaking a Kurdish language, but several forms of Kurdish, each with a different name, and one can fall into all sorts of traps over its wrong use. Its "best" version is probably that used by the Sulaimaniya Kurds, whose language is being developed into a written form using Latin script, a development which is being patronised and popularised by the Russians.

Propaganda produced in the Soviet Union for circulation among Kurds is



A DRAMATIC GESTURE
Familiar faces are emerging from the shadows

being printed in this script, but so far it is confined to the north. I noticed that the Kurds tended to get more Persianised in their speech as one moved towards Kermanshah, although the language is not related to Persian.

Leadership is lacking: But of one thing there is absolute certainty. There is no organised, concerted, concentrated Kurdish movement. Every tribe is against the other and this is their fundamental weakness. They have not yet found a suitable leader to bring them all under one flag or banner.

The Mulla Mustafa has been creating a lot of trouble to the north, not far from the Persian frontier, with actions against the Zibari and Baradost tribes and, since he is on the war-path, this has created a great deal of restlessness amongst the other warlike tribes, especially in the south among the Hamawand, to the east of Kirkuk, and the Jaf, again to the east, south-east and south of the Hamawand.

The Hamawand are well-known for their predatory habits, although they are not the largest tribe by any means, whilst the Jaf are regarded as the Kurds of noblest stock. Everybody in Kurdish country is trigger-happy. Tribal disputes and disturbances are a normal way of life. Where government troops have intervened, it has been to their own cost.

Brand new arms: Despite the standing government order that all firearms are to be handed in, every Kurd that I

have seen has at least one gun, plenty have revolvers, all have bandoliers loaded with ammunition, lots have mitraillettes, all brand new.

To journey through a mountain pass is an intimidating experience. All are well-defended with machine guns and larger weapons, obviously of recent acquisition. Some of the tribes not far from here have trucks and other vehicles and I have met lots of Kurdish officers, n.c.o.'s and men who have defected from the regular Iraqi Army to return to their native heaths.

All the Kurds who were sent back from Russia with Mustafa soon after Kassem took over are with their leader and can be easily recognised by the clothes they wear and the arms they carry.

Recently, there were rumours here in Sulaimaniya of heavy fighting around the belt stretching from Tell Kuchek right along to Rawanduz. It was impossible to get through to this area to check, but whatever trouble occurred there seemed to have been sparked off by Kassem's "containment" measures.

Was it the Yazidis? He may well have used the hated Yazidis—"Devil Worshipers"—for this task, as he did during the Shawwaf outbreak in March, 1959 when he pitched them against the Shammar and the large family of al-Yawar.

What is certain is that troubles of this nature will continue for so long as the Mulla Mustafa is allowed to roam free in Kurdish country. True, he is not a prime favourite with all the Kurds, least of all with the more intellectual of them. But there are many who will look upon him with a less jaundiced eye while he is cracking away successfully at government forces.

The Kurdish purpose, if it can be so collectively identified, is to correct the general Iraqi impression that Iraq is a melange of Kurdistan and Arabia. This has been fostered and pushed by the Sunnis who are violently against an independent Kurdistan.

Old gang back: Their fear, as the traditional source for the Iraqi upper class, is that if the Kurds get their way, then the Shi'ites will be encouraged to come forward with their own demands for separatism. To Kurdish leaders in Sulaimaniya it is just more than coincidence that the new pressures along their "borders" have coincided with the return to the public scene of long banished Sunni faces.

It is certainly true that the old gang is back again, out of prison and not only free, but also playing a very important role in the undercurrent of political and business life. Fadil al-Jamali is there, all



IS POWER RETURNING TO THE SUNNIS?
In the undercurrent of political life, the old spirit moves again

the senior staff officers are released and some of them are back in uniform—not Aref, but I don't doubt that his turn will come.

The indications are that Kassem has made it up with the old gang and especially with the old Sunnism, upon which he is now relying more than ever. Khalil Kanna, Tawfiq Suwaidi, Rashid al-Gailani, etc., are all back.

Closed to the system: This extraordinary return to what was the most powerful influence before July 14, 1958, demonstrates something of the power of the Sunnis as against the Kurds and Shi'ites. It is also worth noting for something else—for this hard-core of Sunnism is also anti-Nasser for the same reason that it may yet become anti-Kassem: it is against military government or a military form of government.

It is quite wrong to believe, as the Sunnis would like people to believe, that the Kurds are not attached to Islam. They regard themselves, in fact, as the fighting champions of the faith. Their women are much tougher than Arab women, have tremendous character and influence and they work very hard for their families.

The current situation is that many parts of the country where the Kurds live are now more or less closed by the Kurds themselves to Kassem's system. It is clear that Mulla Mustafa enjoys more freedom of action and movement, outside contacts

and subventions, than Kassem cares to admit.

Where the heaviest blow may fall: It is quite plain here in Sulaimaniya that some of the Kurds are falling away from the system and that the region is developing into a Kurdish centre of some importance. If the Iraqi Army is to turn away from minor skirmishes in an all-out drive to smash Kurdish power, then the heaviest blow will probably fall on Sulaimaniya. The Kurds will not be found lacking in the will to resist.



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"POLICE GAZETTE" LOOKS AT NASSER'S NAZIS

FORMER EXPERTS ON
"THE JEWISH QUESTION"

from our own correspondent

New York:

Way back in the old days of mushy sentimental songs, there was one that went something like:

"Oh, my longing will increase for the girl upon the Police . . . Gazette, the pretty young brunette on the pink Police Gazette."

The *Police Gazette* is still pink and, on a recent front cover, there was, as usual, a brunette. She shared the space, however, with a less pretty picture of Gamal Abdel Nasser and a caption which read:

EXPOSING NASSER'S NAZI PLOT:
DESTROY ISRAELI JEWS!

The listed contents also included "The Fight Dempsey Wished He'd Never Fought", "Move Over, Brigitte Bardot", "Horses to Watch" and "Lady Wrestler's Own Story—Sure I'd Wrestle a Man!"

Serious homework: But, dodging about among the exclamation marks and the sometimes excruciating style, it becomes clear that on the topic of "Nasser's Nazi Plot" the "sleuths" of the *Police Gazette* have been doing some serious homework. The serious part of it consists of a compilation of former Nazis

now in service with the U.A.R. Some of their names were already known from other sources.

Whether they are doing the jobs the *Police Gazette* allots to them is more doubtful, but the theory is interesting. Within the U.A.R. regular forces, the magazine claims, there exists an anti-Jewish "Army of Liberation" trained in Nazi guerilla fighting tactics.

Heading it, are four ex-Nazis, all former experts on "the Jewish question." First, there is Ali Bella, formerly Dr. Erich Alten, Gestapo chief for Jews in occupied Galicia. Second is Ben Kashir,

once S.S. fuhrer Willi Berner of Mathausen concentration camp.

Former Skoda head: Third comes Abdel Kader, alias Karl Luder, former Hitler Jugend leader in Danzig and, last of the quartet, Ali Ben Khader, who, as S.S. Colonel Baumann, "helped to exterminate the Warsaw Ghetto."

Other important Nazis are helping Nasser in the organisation of his economy and the preparation of the U.A.R. military machine, claims the *Police Gazette*, mentioning among others Dr. Wilhelm Voss, "once head of the Skoda armament works," Werner Naumann, Hjalmar Schacht and Willi Messerschmitt, designer of the famous Messerschmitt 109 fighter plane.

The Egyptian parachute corps, according to the magazine, is organised and led by former S.S. Major Mertins who is under the direct command, from within the U.A.R. Army supreme command, of ex-S.S. Lieutenant-General Wilhelm Farmbacher and his assistant, Oskar Munzel, formerly a Major-General in Hitler's Panzerkorps.

Skorzeny's "personal project": Forces in the Syrian Region, according to this report, are being directed by Rainer Kriebel and Heinze Heigel, both of whom were colonels in the Wehrmacht, while Johann von Leers now directs "all foreign propaganda for Egypt under the name Oman Amin von Leers." But the "Army of Liberation," it claims, is the personal project of Otto Skorzeny, who is credited with arranging the recent sale to Nasser of \$3½m. worth of shells, mortars and machine guns by Spain.



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"TENDER APPROACH" TO IMMIGRATION

HASHOMER HATZAIR'S DILEMMA

When a group of Hashomer Hatzair emissaries in the U.S. met recently to discuss their work in America and in Canada, they were able to list only slightly more than a dozen young men and women trained and ready for a new life in Israel.

And, in listing that tiny band, there was barely restrained regret on the part of some of the emissaries at the fact that, in dispatching this group, they would be skimming off the cream of movement leadership, which would have unfortunate consequences for the future of the organization in this hemisphere.

They were faced, as their colleagues in other Jewish centres have been faced, with the dilemma of whether to actively encourage this group to settle in Israel or whether to persuade them to stay at home and work to preserve the movement itself.

O.K. kibbutzniks: The immigration problem was one of the issues under discussion at the recent conference of the Zionist Organisation of America. Jacob Dinnes, who is chairman of its Aliya Committee, announced the establishment of a new Z.O.A. group—the Bnai Aliya—composed of those contemplating settlement in Israel or "whose relatives plan to do so, as well as of American Jews now living in Israel. The Bnai Aliya will engage in social contact as well as to facilitate meeting problems applicable to the group as a whole."



THE MANY FACES OF ISRAEL
Outside the Knesset, a challenge to the ethnologists

However, this tender approach to aliya was overshadowed by a more practical gesture in the direction of bridge-building between American Jewry and Israel. The Z.O.A. is going to help young people from Kfar Silver to receive further education at American universities in an effort to introduce "advanced American agricultural methods into Kfar Silver's curriculum."

The first candidate from Kfar Silver, a settlement supported by the Z.O.A., has been granted a scholarship at the School

of Agriculture of the University of Illinois. Mid-west Zionists will be responsible for his maintenance during his four-year stay in the U.S. Behind the idea is the vision of a corps of American-trained kibbutzniks—a sort of home-made Peace Corps—able to introduce new techniques into Israeli agriculture and, perhaps, to assume important posts in the Ministry of Agriculture.

But, while a praiseworthy idea, this is as remote from aliya as is American Jewry itself.



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ZIM'S NEW PIER

Zim has decided to move from Brooklyn to more fashionable Manhattan—at least, it has decided to move its pier, as a shipping terminal is called here. By October 1 Zim will be operating from a 52,000 sq. ft. pier, on which it has taken a three-year lease.

The *Israel* and the *Zion*, which serve the regular Haifa-New York route, will both use the new pier, and so will the *Jerusalem* for its winter Caribbean cruises out of New York. In addition, the Black Star and Seven Stars lines will also use Zim's new facilities.

Rent will amount to \$110,000 a year, plus a fee of \$1 for each ton of cargo in excess of 110,000 tons a year, up to a maximum of \$157,000. At the end of the three-year period, Zim will have the option to renew its lease for another three years.

IN THE NEWS

GREATER THAN NEUTRAL

ONCE MORE A MAN—a great man—has had to die before his real contribution to peace (especially in the Middle East) and his towering personal stature were recognized. Dag Hammarskjöld was too honest and too “integral” a man to appreciate the formal kind of tribute to his work. Those who knew him and those who worked with him know better because they knew him better.

In the first place, he was not neutral—not in the currently accepted term of the word. He did not keep aloof from the world's great conflicts. He did not hesitate to make his choice between what he understood to be right and wrong, good or bad. Because he came from a neutral nation and a so-called neutral background, he understood better than most at the U.N. the political fallacies and the moral shortcomings of the neutral outlook. Hammarskjöld, in fact, felt strongly and did not hide his feelings; and not only towards issues but also towards persons. He liked and disliked people and he inspired like and dislike—and also the kind of devotion from those who worked with him which comes only to exceptional and great men. He tried to be objective. He tried to be honest; but not neutral.

AN INDEPENDENT FORCE

In fact, the real nature of the Hammarskjöld doctrine at the U.N.—and this was the cause of Krushchev's angry objection—was its refusal to be neutral. Hammarskjöld taught the U.N. to commit itself to a course of action which reflected the requirements of the international community. He was welding it into a possibly independent force. That was anything but being neutral.

It was the same in the Middle East. His actions at the time of Suez have become the basis of many false assessments of Hammarskjöld's outlook. No one can say today what he would have done—and what would have been so different—if the British and French had not intervened in the Israeli-Egyptian clash. But once they had intervened, once they had failed to act swiftly, and Russian intervention became a possibility, he had to act. What has not been widely understood—especially by those who supported him—but what Hammarskjöld himself understood from the first, was

that his successful intervention in the Suez affair was conditioned by two outside factors: Bulganin's warning that the Russians might intervene (which halted the Anglo-French advance) and the Israeli military success over the Egyptians (which made Nasser anxious to have the U.N. force on his borders).

Hammarskjöld never underrated the power factor in international relations. Unlike so many other internationalists, he never suffered from the illusion that there was strength in good intentions.

VAST HORIZONS

But surprisingly few people understood Hammarskjöld and fully appreciated him—even among those who worked closely with him. And it was the same on the international level. But there were those who did. The Canadian Lester Pearson was one, the Egyptian Mahmoud Fawzi (not Nasser) was another. And Ben-Gurion was a special case. After one encounter between the two, during which they talked for some seven hours without anyone else being present (and which ended without any political agreement), Hammarskjöld remarked that he considered Ben-Gurion to be one of the few great men of our day.

Ben-Gurion also held Hammarskjöld in high esteem. He ranked him as one of the greatest intellects he had encountered, a man of vast horizons. In fact, when the two men met, Hammarskjöld told



WITH ISRAEL'S KIDRON AND EBAN
Honesty, not neutrality

me, it was his joy that they could take time off from the mundane problems of the day and discuss fully the greater issues that faced mankind. Hammarskjöld could think of only one or two others among the world's statesmen with whom he could hold such a conversation.

ISRAELIS' MISTRUST

But Ben-Gurion's appreciation of Hammarskjöld was not widely shared among his colleagues (except for Eban), nor among Israel's public opinion. Hammarskjöld was mistrusted and suspect not only to most Israelis, but also to most French and to many English—only because they never understood either the man or his intentions; and because they

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also failed to appreciate the true function of an international servant. It was possibly Hammarskjöld's greatest contribution that he demonstrated what this should be, and that it had to be something more than neutral.

EDUCATION— FOR WHAT?

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE visit of Moshe Sharett to this country next month have now been completed. The centre-piece of his coming will be the "Education Conference" organised by the Zionist Federation which will take place on October 21 and 22. Sharett, I am told, will use the occasion to deliver one of his major addresses on what he considers a foremost problem facing Jews outside Israel. So as to ensure its full impact on the conference—and on the wider audience outside—Sharett has wisely refrained from making available in advance any part of his speech or of the new proposals which he may make.

The "Education Conference" is not intended to stand by itself. It is planned as the climax of two weeks of intensive campaigning and discussion of this subject which will be initiated by a series of lectures from Professor Ernst Simon of the Hebrew University, the first one, on October 9, will deal with the role of the Jewish intellectual.

Altogether, this welcome initiative by the Zionist Federation should provide the springboard for an international discussion on a subject which cannot, of course, be exhausted in two or three weeks.

WRONG FORMULA

Nor, for that matter, should the subject matter be too limited or confined to the narrow definition of "Jewish" education outside Israel. Experience has shown that it is as much a problem in Israel as outside. The teaching of the so-called Jewish consciousness in the Israeli curriculum has been in many cases far too mechanical and parochial—based on a kind of *Jewish Chronicle* formula: that is, that anyone who happened to be a Jew is worth mentioning in the teaching of history. I shall be interested to hear what Rabbi Kopul Rosen, Mr. Jacob Halevy and Dr. Nathan Morris will have to say on this subject at the special session which they will be addressing.

A good deal of thought has gone into this problem by men like Sharett, Eban, Simon and Kopul Rosen, among others. But the problem which faces the "Education Conference" for one thing is

the practical application of these thoughts. It will have to answer the crucial question: Jewish education—for what?

NEW AGENCY TEAM

THERE IS A FEELING of new brooms at work when one enters the Jewish Agency and Keren Hayesod headquarters in Jerusalem nowadays. Even the evidence of new pastel colour schemes in the corridors and offices tends to emphasise a departure from the old black-and-white attitudes. There can be no doubt that Sharett's presence as chairman of the Executive is making itself felt. It has once more raised the status of the Agency—though it has still a long way to go before it re-establishes itself in Israeli eyes.

But this feeling that the Agency has to show what it can do and get out of the rut into which it has sunk in recent years, is not confined to the chairman's office. The new treasurer, Louis Pincus, is no less concerned to adjust the needs and work of the fund-raising sectors of the Agency to the new conditions. With his cosmopolitan lawyer's experience. Pincus appreciates that the methods of the fifties will not continue indefinitely to produce the required results. Probably more than anyone else, he is in a position to see into the machine. It is, therefore, not surprising that he has become a protagonist of far-going reorganisation and streamlining of the Agency apparatus.

NEED FOR REFORM

His task, when it comes, of sweeping through the Jewish Agency complex with his new broom, will be greatly facilitated by the presence of staunch supporters and colleagues. Foremost among them, it is assumed, will be the new Director of the Keren Hayesod, Dr. Israel Goldstein, when he actually takes over in Jerusalem next month. The presence of his deputy, Woolf Perry, should also add strength to the Agency reformists. However, it is not only the new faces that can see the need for some drastic overhaul. One of the figures in the Agency machine, its secretary Moshe Rivlin, is also keenly anxious to see the long-overdue changes initiated.

But the all-clear has to come from the Executive or even the Zionist General Council. It shirked the issue at its last meeting in the spring, but with the new team in action and the new spirit at headquarters, this matter should not again be put off. The time has come for a high-powered commission to investigate the workings of the Agency in Jerusalem and abroad, and to recommend such changes as seem necessary to it.



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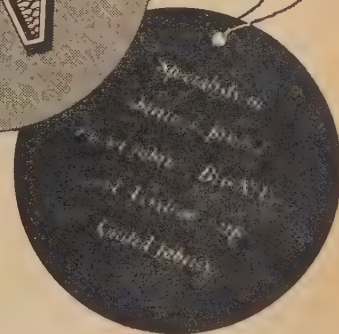
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EGYPT'S COTTON CRISIS

INCREASING DEPENDENCE ON SOVIET BLOC

from an economic correspondent

Egypt's exports increased in 1960 as compared with 1959, but imports expanded even more, and the trade deficit widened to £E.35 million..

The larger trade deficit was almost wholly due to the catastrophic developments in Egypt's major export crop—cotton.* The quantity of cotton exported during the 1960-61 season was very substantially smaller than in 1959-60, as the following table shows. It also demonstrates very clearly that the western bloc has increased its hold on this vital part of the Egyptian economy.

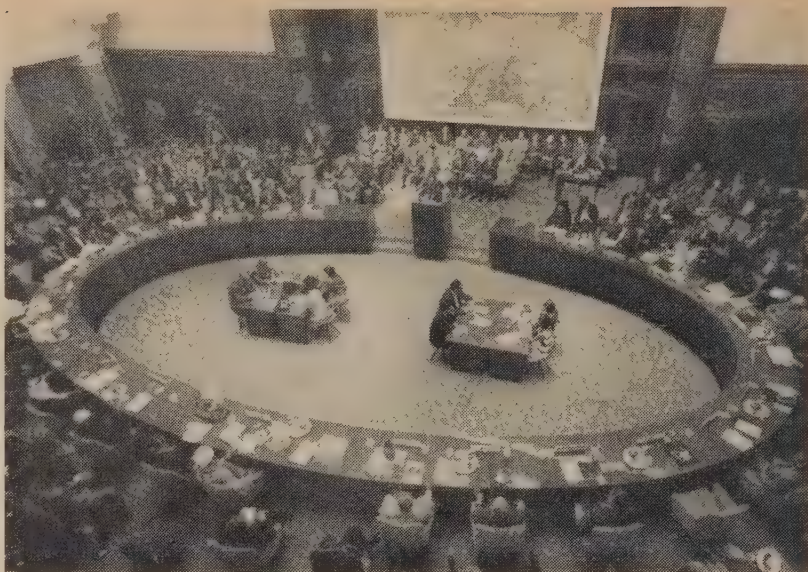
Egypt's foreign currency situation deteriorated as a result of the above developments even more than would appear from the bare figures, since all the eastern bloc purchases of Egyptian cotton were paid for in Egyptian pounds on a clearing account. This, of course, meant that the proceeds of these sales could not be used to finance imports from outside the communist bloc.

* This was due mainly to the Government's failure to take timely precautions against the renewed outbreak of cotton pest—which seemed to have taken the authorities by surprise.

COTTON EXPORTS FROM EGYPT, 1950-60 and 1960-61

Each year runs from April to the end of March
(in thousands of kantars)

	1959-60	1960-1	Change
EASTERN BLOC	1,754.2	1,655.5	— 98.7
Czechoslovakia	605.3	495.2	— 110.1
U.S.S.R.	347.9	206.2	— 141.7
Hungary	92.1	38.8	— 3.3
Other communist countries	708.9	865.3	+ 156.4
REST OF WORLD	1,654.7	869.5	— 785.2
India	407.1	139.7	— 267.4
Italy	227.7	114.4	— 113.3
West Germany	201.3	58.3	— 143.0
Japan	157.6	89.7	— 67.9
United Kingdom	123.6	27.0	— 96.6
United States	107.7	19.6	— 88.1
Holland	32.1	4.4	— 27.7
Other countries	397.6	416.4	+ 18.8



UNCOMMITTED IN SESSION AT BELGRADE

Not all the way with the Arabs, so Cairo is off on another tack

PALESTINE APPEAL TO WORLD STUDENTS

CAIRO LAUNCHES NEW PROPAGANDA DRIVE

Soundings taken at Belgrade and in New York during the last session of the United Nations have convinced Cairo's propagandists that, on the governmental level, they have gone just about as far as they can in winning support and understanding for the Arab case in Palestine.

They now have a clear picture of which nations are for, against or genuinely uncommitted. Experiences at Belgrade underlined that most of the uncommitted preferred to stay that way and, while every effort will be made to win them

over through diplomatic channels during the coming weeks, the belief in Cairo is that longer term measures must be taken to gain and keep support.

Upon this reasoning, the propaganda experts have mapped and are implementing an adroit project to put their case over to senior university students from all parts of the world. The approach is well illustrated by the International Labour Camp organised by the U.A.R. General Students' Federation in Gaza.

Political mortar : It was organised with the express purpose of undertaking the "humanitarian project" of building an ophthalmic hospital for refugees in the strip. Invitations were issued to student organisations throughout the world to send volunteers to help their Arab colleagues in undertaking construction work. The response was impressive. More than 170 students representing 23 students' unions in Afro-Asian, European and American countries responded to the call.

When they arrived in Gaza last week, they found a public welcome awaiting them in the form of addresses from the Administrative Governor of the Gaza Strip, a representative of "the Palestinian people" and the camp warden. The burden of the welcoming speeches was the same in all cases: the students would be able to see for themselves the terrible fate to which the Arabs of Palestine had

been condemned by the blood-thirsty Israelis.

Should this fate not be fully comprehended by the student builders, the camp organisers had arranged that, between stints of brick-laying, they would attend seminars on "the development of the Palestine problem." This would be followed by a conference devoted to "the Palestine refugee problem, the position of Israel and other problems stemming from imperialism."

No one is pretending: The students will be asked to endorse resolutions and decisions which will then be transmitted to students' unions and federations throughout the world.

In a parallel move to influence world student organisations, the Palestinian Students' Organisation has called a "second general conference" in Damascus from September 27 to October 2. In addition to Palestinian students from the U.A.R., Lebanon, Britain, Yugoslavia and Turkey, representatives are also attending from the general students' unions in Cuba, France, communist China, the U.S.S.R., Western Germany, Holland, Pakistan, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, the Sudan and Iraq.

Unlike the Gaza campaign, there is no "humanitarian" cover-up being provided for this effort. It is plainly propagandist and there is no pretence otherwise. Speakers will include the U.A.R. Minister of Higher Education, the Chairman of the Palestine Students' Organisation and leaders of its various branches in the Arab world.

Government-in-exile call: The agenda deals almost entirely with aspects of the Palestine issue and where it does diverge it is to illuminate aspects of U.A.R. policy in sensitive regions of Africa. Some sessions will be barred to foreign participants who will be taken on conducted tours during the periods of their exclusion from the conference.

One of the probable topics to be considered in closed session is the growing demand by U.A.R. Palestinians, backed by the Nasser Government, for the establishment of a Palestinian Government in Exile. In Damascus last week, Usama an-Naqib, Secretary-General of the Palestinian National Union, urged this move as one of the necessary steps to face "the rapid developments of the Palestine question which will begin at the next session of the General Assembly."

That developments might, however, be less rapid than an-Naqib anticipates was brought home last week to Dr. Joseph Johnson, special representative of the Palestine Conciliation Commission, who has been touring the Middle East in

order to help the P.C.C. draft the report which it is required to present to the U.N. by October 15.

Solution without an alternative: Johnson was appointed on August 24 with specific instructions to "visit the Middle East to explore with the host governments and with Israel practical means of seeking progress on the Palestine Arab refugee problem." The Arab attitude was summed up for him in Cairo by Arab League Secretary-General Abdel Khalek Hassouna: "There is only one solution and it has no alternative—the return of the refugees to their own fatherland."

NASSER WHIPS HIS MINISTERS

FIFTEEN DAYS TO PREPARE REPORTS

from a correspondent now in Cairo

Life in Cairo is full of little and unexpected surprises, such as the discovery last week that President Nasser, the architect of "democratic co-operative socialism", employs at his far from austere Presidential Palace a group of gentlemen known by the traditional style and title of Chamberlain, something that most of us had thought had disappeared with Farouk's regime.

This minor Presidential idiosyncrasy serves only to point up others, such as the improved trading being done by one of Cairo's leading secondhand car

dealers since he started advertising his choicest wares as being "used by a well-known personality." One such recently offered vehicle was a 1961 Mercedes "complete with radio and air conditioning, white-wall tyres, done only two thousand kilometres, guaranteed for 25,000 kilometres, complete with every luxury."

Other vehicles in the "well-known personality" category offered by the dealer included another Mercedes, a couple of large-sized Fords and an Oldsmobile "garaged by the sequestration authorities." Personal transport is certainly becoming an important factor in the higher echelons of government. Only a cursory accounting of visits exchanged between Ministers and senior heads of departments in the five days preceding September 11 provides a total of 63—an indication of unprecedented governmental activity.

At a moment's notice: The period chosen, however, is significant. It was on September 11, following his return from Belgrade, that President Nasser summoned first his Vice-Presidents and, later, his Cabinet to receive their preliminary reports on the progress being made in the implementation of the nationalisation decrees and measures for the unification of the Egyptian and Syrian Regions.

After four hours of intense discussion, it was clear to the President—as tough a boss as has ever dominated a board room—that his Ministers were not yet on top of their jobs, despite the frenzied comings and goings of the previous days. He waved away lengthy briefs prepared by departmental chiefs and submitted by Ministers.

(continued on page 14)



Instead, he demanded that—within fifteen days—each ministry must supply him with a detailed report showing total investments, expenditures and accomplishments in every sphere of activity. Furthermore, he instructed his Ministers, they must work out a system whereby a true picture of current progress could be provided for his guidance at a moment's notice.

More decrees probable: On the implementation of the Five Year Plan, he asked for reports from each ministry showing how much had been invested, in what it had been invested, what had been accomplished and the reasons for any failures. He wondered aloud whether reductions could not be made in administrative expenditures and indicated that he would be going further into the question of whether the boards of directors of nationalised industries were functioning effectively.

Finally and on the basis of reports submitted by the Vice-Presidents, he suggested that Ministers adopt a more serious approach to the re-organisation of their ministries. There have been reports and rumours of rows between some of the Ministers regarding their competence in certain fields and it seems probable that some further Presidential decree specifically outlining ministerial responsibilities will be required.

An important topic, barely touched upon at the September 11 Cabinet session, is the educational problem of the U.A.R. where the teacher shortage threatens to undermine the ambitious educational programme. One suggestion that has been made to fill the gap is that examinations should be adapted to local conditions, with more candidates being allowed to graduate in those areas of both Egypt and Syria where the shortage of teachers is greatest.

One big family: Standards have already been lowered to a degree where, in some instances, headmasters have been required to educate their staff as well as their pupils. Headmaster-teacher tensions ran high in some educational institutions last term and, last week, Education Minister Sayed Yussef was moved to appeal to headmasters to treat teachers "without discrimination and with the utmost decency, in view of the fact that their mission is sublime and sacred, and almost similar to that of the prophets."

The Minister directed the teachers, without suggesting how, that they should work in accordance with a "well-designed system in order to complete the syllabuses before the end of the school year." Those engaged in the field of education, he concluded, were members of just "one big family."

AFRICA

EGYPT REVISES HER AFRICAN POLICY

ISRAELI EXAMPLE FORCES A REAPPRAISAL

from our own correspondent

Bamako:

The decision of the U.A.R. to supply a number of military jet aircraft to Mali highlights a trend which has been becoming increasingly evident in the past three months. The close alliance which Nasser has succeeded in forging with Modibo Keita represents one of his most significant moves yet in inter-African affairs, and can be considered his biggest victory to date in West Africa.

The U.A.R.—Mali alliance has been gaining political momentum since Keita's visit to Cairo earlier this year. Even before then, Egypt had promised to send a military mission to Mali, while during the visit Nasser promised Keita a loan of several million pounds sterling as well as technical and military aid. The aid has been slow in forthcoming; only now has news been received in Bamako that the military mission is on its way.

Indeed, it has only been in the past few weeks that the practical effects of the Egyptian-Malian alliance have begun to be felt here. Previously, the Egyptians, for all their leaders' brave talk of friendship and aid, had been among the least active in Bamako.

The same address: The first Egyptian Ambassador, a brigadier in the Egyptian Army, only arrived at the beginning of summer—and left again after a fortnight. He made no secret of his disappointment in Bamako and of the difficulties he found in living here; these difficulties were enhanced by the fact that the Ambassador could not speak a word of French.

Now, in the past few weeks, the Egyptians have started to come to life. The Ambassador has returned with new additions for his Embassy staff. Egyptian delegations are becoming a regular feature at the Grand Hotel (where, curiously, both the Egyptian and the Israeli Embassies are housed).

For the political advantages of an Egyptian—Malian alliance have suddenly become very apparent to the Egyptians. It places Nasser in the favourable position in the Casablanca group of commanding a bloc within a bloc, for, in



KENNEDY WITH SUKARNO AND KEITA
Another reappraisal?

addition to Malian support, he can usually rely on Moroccan backing. Thus, by gaining the friendship of Keita, Nasser has played a successful gambit in the game of "one-upmanship" against his formal allies and potential rivals for leadership in Africa, Kwame Nkrumah and Sekou Touré.

Open scepticism: There is, however, another side to this alliance. In Mali, as in Guinea, the Egyptians have promised technical aid, trying to catch up with what the Israelis have been doing in Africa for the past two years. For the Egyptians, however, this is something new. Until

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now, virtually the only aid the Egyptians have provided to other countries has been in the form of religious clergy and teachers in Arabic, with the addition of military aid to Somalia and Morocco.

Many people here are openly sceptical of Egyptian ability to offer technical aid to other countries. "They should first raise the standards of living of their own people before they try to raise the standard of others" was a comment from a member of Keita's entourage when they returned from their Cairo visit.

This new Egyptian venture will be watched with interest not only here in Mali but also in many other countries where the Egyptians are stepping up their activity.

News with a slant: Mali, more than most other countries in Africa, is certainly in need of outside aid. Formerly, every facet of the country's political and economic life had been run by the more than ten thousand French living here. Today only a few hundred French are left and their number is dwindling daily. The result is a giant vacuum which both east and west bloc countries are endeavouring to fill.

Both blocs, and in particular the east, have their champions in the ruling party, the Union Soudanaise (R.D.A.) and it is no surprise that the communist bloc countries have been able to "capture" the information services of Mali.

The two cabinet Ministers responsible for these services—Madeira Keita, the Minister of Interior, and Gologo, Director of Information—are strongly pro-communist. The result is that all news on Radio Mali and in the government press has a strong pro-communist slant.

Competition with Nkrumah: Another Left-winger in the Mali Government is Henri Corontin, Minister of Transport, which explains the fact that Air Mali has been put under Czech direction and that young Malian pilots have been sent to Czechoslovakia for training. On the other hand, the Minister of Defence, Mamadou Diaké, is considered more moderate in his views, which perhaps accounts for the fact that the Americans have supplied the Malian Army with uniforms, trucks and other equipment.

The moderates of the Malian Government, with Modeiba Keita at their head, are not so much pro-West, however, as



A QUESTION FOR KEITA IN A MOMENT OF SOLITUDE—
What chance for neutrality in a world of commitment?

"positive neutralist." Indeed, they, perhaps more than any other African government, are closest to Nasser's way of political thinking. They are willing to receive aid from both east and west; they wish to avoid becoming dependent on either of the two blocs; but in their political thinking and pronouncements they follow a strongly anti-western line.

Bamako, like Cairo, is a centre for a number of extreme anti-west exile groups and their leaders, such as Djibo Bakary, the communist leader from Niger, and exiles from the Ivory Coast and Senegal. Modibo Keita is, indeed, determined to elevate Bamako to a position of importance as a centre of inter-African affairs, and he is anxious to attract to his capital as many African organisations as possible. In this he runs in direct competition with Nkrumah who has similar aspirations regarding Accra.

Proud and independent: Given the continuation of Keita's close alliance with Nasser, observers here believe that the Casablanca powers will gradually drift apart, with Mali, Morocco and Egypt forming a North African axis, and with Ghana increasingly developing her activities in a southern and eastern direction.

But in Africa politics have a tendency to be even more fluid than in other parts of the world. Alliances are at best makeshift affairs and the pattern of today is liable to be re-designed tomorrow. The Malians are a proud and independent people. If they felt they were being used to further the aspirations of another country their reaction would be immediate. The last word has not yet been spoken in Bamako.

DAHOMEY PRESIDENT VISITING ISRAEL

from our own correspondent

Jerusalem:

Thursday marks the start of another round of visits to Israel by important African personalities when the President of Dahomey, Hubert Maga, arrives here to start an eight-day official stay.

He will be accompanied by senior officials of his administration, including the Foreign, Agriculture and Justice Ministers. Dahomey is a member of the Brazzaville group of countries.

Another visitor is Ister Rashid Kawawa, Minister Without Portfolio in the Tanganyikan Government, a Moslem and a leading African trade unionist.

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BOOKS

GERMANY THREE-DIMENSIONAL

THE MIND OF GERMANY, the Education of a Nation, by Hans Kohn; 370 pp., index; (Macmillan) 30s.

GERMANY DIVIDED, by Terence Prittie; 381 pp., index; (Hutchinson) 30s.

FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR, by Michael Howard; 512 pp., maps, index; (Rupert Hart-Davis) 63s.

We may be forgiven if, at the present moment, we want to take yet another, closer look at the new Germany. For the generations that have not altogether forgotten the last war, and for those for whom the Eichmann trial in Jerusalem provided a timely reminder of events less than twenty years ago, it is a little difficult to accept that the time has come to defend the liberties and the freedom of the people of Berlin. Does our own existence really now depend on the maintenance of the special position of West Berlin? Does the future of free Europe really hinge on the fate of the city which, during the last ninety years, has been three times the scourge of Europe?

How can we tell: is there not a more reliable way for us to judge than the passing fancies of the politicians and publicists who appeal to us to rally to the defence of Berlin as they appealed to us not so very long ago—sixteen or seventeen years ago—to ensure its destruction as a centre of power? There is no easy answer. It may be that Berlin must be defended, but it may also be that we ought to think carefully and take a long, hard look at Berlin before we fully commit ourselves to the equation that the defence of western democracy equals the defence of Berlin.

Possibly the best way to gain some distance and perspective before we answer is to consider these three books, each of a very different kind, but together adding up to a singularly instructive picture of German conditions.

Professor Kohn is, of course, the professional liberal, the historian of nationalism in Europe and the Near East. In this book he looks at the principal intellectual influences that have shaped modern Germany during the last two hundred years. In doing this he has many instructive and some penetrating things to say about influences that played on a

relatively small but decisive section of German opinion. But the overall picture which he provides is fairly familiar and somehow fails to connect with the questions we have been asking ourselves. For, unfortunately, the book stops short at the point where we would like to see the influences that shape the younger generations of today. The "Mind" with which Professor Kohn concerns himself, one suspects, is not that of Germany which last Sunday voted for a new *Bundestag* and which demands the support of the west. Kohn's German mind is the mind he knew in the pre-Hitler Germany, the mind of his fellow German liberals of that stone-age—and the mind also of their nationalist opponents. But is that still the mind of Germany today? I doubt it.

There is also some internal evidence in Professor Kohn's book that parts of it were written a good many years ago and hardly reflect the mind of the Germany

which we are trying to fathom.

This cannot be said of Terence Prittie's sober, balanced and yet sharply pointed book. He has tried to see what the Germany of today is really like. He wanted to be fair and to provide as many facets of this many-sided picture as were necessary to form a judgment. But, because he is the strikingly honest correspondent of the *Guardian* in Bonn, Prittie finds it easier to report on these different aspects of the modern Germany than to give a rounded-off answer to the questions which his account raises in the reader's mind—and, one suspects, also in Prittie's mind. But for those who want to see the harsh and the hopeful realities of the German mind of today, Prittie is probably a safer and more reliable guide than Kohn. For example, Prittie would not commit himself to so categorical a statement as Kohn's expression of complete assurance that Germany is henceforth

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safely rooted inside the western camp.

The last of these three books appears far removed from the Germany of our day. But it is as relevant as the others. Michael Howard has made a careful study of the manner in which the French walked into Bismarck's trap and enabled the Prussians to bring about the shattering defeat and downfall of Napoleon III. He manages to correct many of the popular illusions about the foresight and efficiency of the German campaign, but, judging from some of the learned reviews, he has also unwittingly given birth to a new legend.

His book, it was said, showed that the Prussian attack on France in 1870 was the first example of a total war. That is to confuse the issue. It was the first example of a mass army of a highly industrial state conducting a full-scale war, but, except in those areas actually overrun, the war did not affect the civilian population. What was significant about it was that the Germans really produced a war machine and operated with great masses of men as part of the machine. But the particular value of Howard's study is the picture which it provides of the Prussian military mind in control, and how everything else had to submit to it: the civilian at home as much as the foe abroad.

It is a timely reminder, but this development was not something that sprang from the military mind of the German or Prussian; the tragedy to which Howard points in his final summing up was not one of doctrine but of Germany's economy and geography. These have always dominated the German mind much more than either Goethe or Heine, or even Fichte and Wagner. And it is these that still shape the mind of Germany today. It is this that makes us pause before we commit ourselves too much to the future of Berlin.

Jon Kimche

THIS WAY ENCHANTMENT

THE MAGICIAN OF LUBLIN, by Isaac Bashevis Singer; 244 pp.; (*Secker and Warburg*) 16s.

Is there such a thing as an inherited memory? Could it possibly be that, somewhere in the process of the fission and division of genes which have as their end purpose the production of a human being, an atom of memory is wedged in, accidentally to be tapped on some future occasion, or even perhaps to lie dormant for ever? How many Jews will read Singer's Chagallesque novel without a stirring of memory, a nostalgic longing

for the gold and the dross of an unknown ghetto which both logic and the tempering of western society tell us we would hate and despise?

Singer's story of the Jewish magician of Lublin, translated from the Yiddish with impressive regard for its nuances but without contempt for the language of publication, is, in retrospect, a slight one indeed. Yasha Mazur, magician and womaniser, surrenders at last to a mystery greater than any in his repertoire: religion. And even in his succumbing we are not quite sure whether this is not

another trick. But it does not really matter. After a while, even Yasha begins to pall.

It is Singer's incarnation of the ghetto-dwellers, the sights, sounds and sometimes the smells of their homes, streets and synagogues that tangle the imagination and touch hard upon that impossible core of memory. It is escapist literature in the truest sense of the word, for the past which it evokes can have no possible reawakening. Which is perhaps why in reading it we can afford to yearn a little.

Geoffrey D. Paul

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IN AID OF THE "FRIENDS OF JEWISH AGRICULTURAL TRAINING"

ISRAELI ENTERPRISE

A Jewish Observer Panorama

LOOKING FOR OIL UNDER THE SEA CANADIAN COMPANY TO START PROSPECTING

from our own correspondent

Tel Aviv :

The £80 million or so (£16 million) invested in prospecting for oil in Israel has so far resulted in the discovery of oil and natural gas deposits worth about the same amount, or perhaps £10 million more.

Oil from Heletz and gas from Rosh Zohar, as well as some minor sources, are expected to yield a steady 200,000 tons a year for the next 15-20 years, about a tenth of the country's present annual needs.

But there are hopes, backed by the knowledge and experience gained over the past few years, that Israel has more numerous oil resources than those already discovered, although they are thought to be scattered, ranging from very small pools to fairly large concentrations.

Not enough capital: In the past, foreign companies prospecting for oil in Israel have not been successful in finding these deposits because they have had insufficient capital to undertake prospecting on a large enough scale. Instead of spreading their activities over a broad region, the companies have tended to restrict themselves to small local explorations.

The possibilities have not been fully explored, nor even realised, by foreign oil companies. Their response has been disappointing, Israeli oil circles consider, and Acting Petroleum Commissioner D. Niv has said as much. However, there are hopes of an improvement in the situation, as a result of a new prospecting policy which has been agreed upon and is now to be implemented.

The seven-year concession period granted under the Israel Oil Law of 1953 is now at an end, and, as the result of a survey carried out before he died by the late P. Grader, the country's Petroleum Commissioner, licences will in future be granted to those companies willing and able to carry out prospecting operations on a regional basis.

Cautious optimism: Another aspect of the search for oil is off-shore prospecting. One Canadian company, Sancana, has lost no time in seeking rights to explore

the continental shelf off Israel's coastline. The Petroleum Council has granted the company a licence, and operations are expected to start soon.

Sancana is the first company to apply for off-shore prospecting rights. Its experts have shown cautious optimism in their assessment of the possibilities of striking oil. They point out that part of the sea bed along Israel's shores is of reef limestone, the same stratum composition which, in Canada, has yielded some of the largest oilfields in that country. Certain oil-bearing deposits in Turkey are also similar.

Whatever the results of Sancana's initiative, the next seven years of Israel's oil history are likely to turn out even more eventful than the first. Although the last seven years have not been the Biblical lean years, they have not been the fat ones either. By 1968 we shall know for sure whether the next seven will have been.



FISHERMEN OF ISRAEL

The ones that get away are bad for business

ISRAELI-CAUGHT TUNA FISH

Israel's newest trawler, the Daguite, has returned to Haifa with 200 tons of tuna from Atlantic waters off the coast of West Africa. This marks the end of what was, until a short time ago, almost a Japanese monopoly in long-line tuna fishing.

Originally, a Japanese fishing vessel had taken Israeli crew members along on its tuna fishing trips, teaching them the technique, and helping Israel build up a

THE ZIONIST FEDERATION OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND

EDUCATION FORTNIGHT — 9th to 22nd OCTOBER

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

MR. MOSHE SHARETT,

Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive and

PROF. ERNST SIMON

of the Hebrew University, Jerusalem

will address the following meetings and functions:

Prof. Ernst Simon

- | | | | |
|--------|------|------|--|
| Mon. | 9th | Oct. | Z.F. Public Rally, New Community Centre, Grove End Road, N.W.8. (8 p.m.) |
| Tues. | 10th | " | Public Zionist Rally, St. Enoch Hotel, Glasgow (8 p.m.) |
| Thurs. | 12th | " | Annual Weizmann Lecture, Leeds University (under the auspices of the Leeds University and the Leeds Zionist Central Council) (5.30 p.m.) |
| Fri. | 13th | " | Weekend Hebrew Seminar, King's Hotel, Brighton. |

Mr. Moshe Sharett

- | | | | |
|---------|---------------|---|---|
| Mon. | 16th | " | Habonim Dinner, Selby's Restaurant, W.1. (8 p.m.) |
| Wed. | 18th | " | Habonim Luncheon, Manchester (1 p.m.)
Public Zionist Rally, Holdsworth Hall, Manchester (8 p.m.) |
| Thurs. | 19th | " | Education Dinner, Queen's Hotel, Leeds. |
| Sat/Sun | 21st and 22nd | " | Z.F. Education Conference (for details see press announcements) |

Further functions pending, the details of which will be announced in due course.

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Southgate Technical Institute
Dalston County School

JPA-JNF NEWS

Prepared by JPA/JNF Public Relations Department, 4 St. George Street, Hanover Square, W.1. Hyde Park 2286/7

A 12-ZONE RECLAMATION PLAN TO COVER ISRAEL

ACROSS THE MAP, CENTRES OF NEGLECT FAN OUT TO 75 PER CENT OF THE LAND

Three-quarters of Israel still lie neglected, untouched by plough or human hand. Yet the cities are overcrowded and the pressure of new immigration begins afresh.

With these factors in mind, Jewish National Fund planners have made a survey of the country as a whole and have pin-pointed twelve centres as points of development in the next few years. As Israel's population grows and her industries and road networks increase, the fullest exploitation of the land area is the essential pre-requisite for a more even distribution of population and the dispersal of economic activity.

Waiting to be restored are no less than two and a half million dunams of soil—over 600,000 acres. Suddenly the challenge of this immense area has come upon the nation in all its urgency. Suddenly it has come within sight of attainment. From Safed in the north of the country down to Eilat at its southern tip, work has begun. In some places it is well advanced, in others plans have barely left the blue-print stage. But the outcome will be 200,000 more acres for agriculture and 400,000 for afforestation. To reach this objective nearly 2,000 miles of roads will be constructed.

The plan does not include the southern Negev or the Arava, two regions which must await scientific techniques as yet unharnessed. Nevertheless, the programme as it stands will change the face of the country, place another 35,000 families in agriculture and provide the conditions for the settlement of many more thousands of immigrants.

It is the accepted view that one agricultural family provides an economic base for two urban families. Therefore, the completion of this development programme will create conditions for the absorption of some 100,000 families, or altogether 500,000 people. Long-term investment on this scale on the land is consequently justified in a country of limited means because there is bound up with it the entire character of Israel as an independent state.

In this and the following page, we enumerate the 12 regions that must be transformed from desert to farmland and so consolidate Israel's economy and make its borders more secure.

1. SAFED. A city without a hinterland whose population is subject to seasonal fluctuations of employment. Yet 20,000 acres in the neighbourhood can be dotted with agricultural and semi-urban settlements, using the ancient city as a marketing and distribution centre.

From the employment point of view this will release the region from excessive dependence on the tourist trade and still increase the population by 4,000 additional families, each farming five acres.

2. UPPER GALILEE. An enclave without Jewish settlement, isolating Haifa from the north. Here there are vast empty stretches comprising 75,000 acres, most of it rock and denuded hills.

This is the classic area of Zionist colonisation, which means that all fertile land is now being fully worked. The new programme tackles the more difficult stretches, but with the old pioneering vision.

3. KORAZIN. A bloc of 5,000 acres on the Jordan border, its southern tip reaching towards Lake Tiberias. Largely below sea level, Korazin has recently come into the news as a potential "hot house" for out-of-season crops, such as winter vegetables and early grapes for

export.

The participation of Anglo-Jewry in this undertaking has already been announced, and these columns will carry more details of the project in future issues.

4. MT. GILBOA. In Samaria, between Affule and Bet Shean, it was cursed by King David to have "neither rain nor dew." Mountainous terrain requiring a proper road, J.N.F. forests are already growing there, but another 12,000 acres remain to be reclaimed.

Work is now underway to improve a roughly-hewn path. Mt. Gilboa forms a gap in Israel's defences and those acquainted with its topography have been able to cross the frontier here almost at will.

5. THE CARMEL. On Haifa's south-eastern approaches, the hilly centre of the region is cultivable and can provide farming terrain for several hundreds. Urban and rural settlements are situated on the fringes of the range. Today's problem is with the uplands.

6. MOD'IN. A region of 25,000 acres between Tel Aviv and the Jordan border. In the south-eastern corner of the area



Beginnings in Galilee. A new housing quarter over-looking Nazareth.

J P A - J N F NEWS

lie the graves of the Hasmoneans, but the descendants of the Maccabees are not there today and the border is wide open. Modi'in forms part of the foothills of the Judean range and reclamation is possible here to link with the large number of settlements further south.

7. JERUSALEM CORRIDOR.

Although much has been done over the past twelve years to strengthen the link between Israel's capital and the coastal plain, and 21 villages have been established there, the Corridor is criss-crossed with mountains and valleys that are almost totally unoccupied. The J.N.F. envisages afforestation for 30,000 acres and close cultivation of another 5,000.

8. ADULLAM. This is the region which the J.N.F. put on the settlement map three years ago, having laid 45 miles of roads and dotted the area with new villages. But this work accounts for only ten per cent of the region and the full integration of Adullam into the economy of the country has not yet taken place.

A problem encountered in this region, and still to be overcome, is the reluctance of immigrant settlers to remain in the face of adverse conditions and inadequate farming equipment. Adullam has a common border with Jordan extending for 10 miles, so its full settlement comes high up on the priority list.

9. ADORAYIM. A considerable parcel of land comprising 90,000 acres, it now contains only three settlements. J.N.F. work so far has principally been in the field of road-making, but Adorayim is too close to the economic and political centres of Israel to be left unoccupied any longer.

Situated adjacent to Adullam, and containing within it a long stretch of the Jerusalem-Beersheba road, Adorayim is generally flat, and without doubt it could give an immense amount of land for grazing.

10. YATIR-TEL ARAD. Here are more than 100,000 acres of land located between Beersheba and the Dead Sea. The Arad portion is more promising from the economic point of view, and we have already written of the location as a most likely centre of Israel's petrol-chemical industry. Natural gas sources are nearby at Rosh Zohar. Yatir will prove more intractable because of the shortage of water, but the area comes within the irrigation plan for the northern Negev and will eventually receive its water from the Jordan.

On the Arad side, a waterless plateau first defeated the optimists, but now that work has begun in the creation of an industrial centre to exploit important natural resources, the J.N.F. has joined with the Ministry of Development to give the zone a considerable area of dry farming.

11. RUHAMA. Coming close to the Gaza Strip, Ruhama's 6,000 acres form a segment of a region that has lately been very much in the thoughts of Ben-Gurion. At present it provides grazing for the surrounding villages, and the J.N.F. intend planting a eucalyptus forest on the barren ground within the next two years.

The American Bond Drive group in Israel this summer for their leadership conference was specially briefed on the potential of this terrain, once reclaimed.

It was told by Levi Eshkol that both the soil and climate there favour the cultivation of citrus fruits, vegetables, cotton and other crops. These will be raised with an eye to export.

12. THE NEGEV. Although it has a long history of research in the Negev, the J.N.F. has only lately introduced land reclamation there. First steps will take the form of afforestation and the increase of field crops for industrial purposes. The agave has been successfully cultivated in the Negev for some years and there is every prospect of increasing the plantation of this fibre-producing crop. In the seemingly limitless expanse of the Negev desert, some areas, notably between Kfar Yeruham and Sde Boker, have responded to agricultural experiments, and in any case work is going forward with the planting of all kinds of trees, through the Negev and along the road to Eilat.

We have mostly discussed the challenge of the Negev in the past from the geographical point of view—shortage of water, tropical heat, shifting sand. But the human factor is no less important, and it has been found that the spirit of the wilderness can eat into a man's heart and mind.

Is there a solution to this problem of psychology? Most certainly, and as the J.N.F. penetrates deeper with its trees for wind-breaks, the dust will be kept down and the very colour of the Negev will change. The southlands contain good soil in the wadis which must be protected. This is where the healing power of the tree becomes most effective, its roots under the earth a powerful ally to the labourer in the sun.



Northern viewpoint. The Jordan from Korazin.



First steps. Tractors on the skyline.

J P A - J N F N E W S

SHARETT ON THE NEW YEAR'S TASKS

The chairman of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem writes:

My warmest New Year greetings are extended to you as leaders and supporters of the Joint Palestine Appeal. As you conclude another year in which you have participated in and aided the transportation and integration of new immigrants to Israel, I know you are already making intensive plans to meet the growing needs. Your help is needed more than ever in the coming year, to cope with the increased flow of immigration apparent during the last six months, an increase which is placing great strain on the Jewish Agency's resources as additional housing and welfare services for these vast numbers were not estimated for in the original 1961 budget.

The continuing needs of over 300,000 not-so-new immigrants must also be faced in order to complete integration. I know that you will do everything to help Israel to offer a haven to those who will soon be able to reach Israel, but I urge the utmost speed in cash collections and intensified campaigns to overcome the new problems. May the New Year strengthen our determination to provide freedom for our brothers whose only goal is Israel and whose only hope is our help.

MOSHE SHARETT

IN THE GOLDEN BOOK

Recent inscriptions include: Mr. and Mrs. Morris Abrahams by the New Manchester Jewish Sportsmen's Committee; Maurice Goldenfield by Manchester Joint Council of Lodges—Grand Order Sons of Jacob, on the occasion of the Barmitzvah year of the State of Israel; Barbara and Geoffrey Noar by Mr. and Mrs. E. Fingerhut, on the occasion of their marriage; Samuel Mason, the New Manchester Jewish Sportsmen's Committee; Mr. A. Rivlin, on the occasion of the 1961 "100 Club" by the New Manchester Jewish Sportsmen's Committee.

Mr. and Mrs. I. Simia, on the occasion of Hackney J.N.F. Commission's second Dinner and Ball, by the Hackney J.N.F. Commission; Shirley Barbara Krammer and Alan Tragen on the occasion of their marriage, by the bride's parents; Robert Alan Sterling on the occasion of his Barmitzvah by his parents; Alf and Hetty Lamm, on the occasion of their Silver Wedding; Paul Murray Carvis on the occasion of his Barmitzvah, by his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Lappin; Harry Brown on the occasion of his son's Barmitzvah, by the Hon. Officers of the J.N.F., Leeds Commission and the 1961 Blue and White Bazaar Committee; Joseph Leibovich on the occasion of his Barmitzvah by uncle Jack and Auntie Fanny; Ian Bernard Glick, on the occasion of his Barmitzvah, by his parents.

LIVERPOOL'S PUBLISHING ACHIEVEMENT

Liverpool's annual publishing achievement, "Shalom," has once again made its New Year appearance. As usual, it is packed with news, views and pictures on subjects light and serious, and is well worth its price—one tree in Israel.

The 5722 issue, edited with his usual expertise but unhappily for the last time by Emmanuel Fagin, puts its emphasis on this Barmitzvah year of independence. His farewell editorial constitutes a summary of the year's events at home and in Israel, and is written in a style typical of the enthusiasm of Liverpool.

Saul and Berl Rosenblatt and Sol Davies are among the local leaders who contribute to the publication, and they cover every aspect of J.N.F. work, in which they hope to carry the community with them into another successful and stimulating year.

Isaac Harris, president of the Liverpool Zionist Council, writes of the understanding between Israel and Anglo-Jewry, but feels that the spiritual tradition is not sufficient. He stresses the importance of culture and education in order to fulfil the Zionist ideal. New Year messages published come from, among others, the Ambassador of Israel and the president of the Jewish National Fund.

The Liverpool J.N.F. Commission have, in the 380 pages of "Shalom," given us a vivid picture of Zionist life in the community and at the same time shown how financially productive such a publication can be. The final credit goes, therefore, to K. L. Abrahams, honorary business manager.

SOUTHPORT YOUNGER COMMISSION

At the fifth annual general meeting of the Southport Younger J.N.F. Commission, M. Pollick, chairman, reported that this group had raised £1,500 since July, 1960, an achievement unsurpassed in the history of the Commission.

Officers elected for the coming year: joint chairmen, J. Green, M. Pollick; treasurer, A. Spieler; secretary, Miss J. Gordon; assistant secretary, Miss S. Cohen; joint functions chairmen, M. Goldman, R. Goldman; publicity officer, S. Morrell; and J. Cassell, J. Myers, executive members with S. Abelson, life president.

THIS WEEK'S BEST BOXES

N.W. LONDON: Dr. J. Sharp, 153 Walm Lane, N.W.2, £3.11.3. Mr. D. Baker, 25 Sherwood Road, N.W.4, £3.5.6. Mr. Zwart, 5 Manor Hall Avenue, N.W.4, £3.5.0. Mr. P. Oster, 27 Pembroke Hall, Mulberry Close, N.W.4, £3.3.0. Mr. S. Rodin, 20 Holders Hill Crescent, N.W.4, £2.10.9. Mrs. H. Cohen, 6 Faber Gardens, N.W.4, £2.10.0. Mrs. J. Gerver, 52 Ashley Lane, N.W.4, £2.8.0. Mr. I. Haber, 12 Glebe Crescent, Finchley Lane, N.W.4, £2.3.3. Mrs. Ray Schama, 11 Sinclair Grove, N.W.11, £2.2.0. Mrs. Alex Cohen, White Oak, Cedar Close, N.W.4, £2.0.0. Mr. Bechler, 21 Ashley Court, Great North Way, N.W.4, £2.0.0. Mr. E. Newton, 50, Gabriels Road, N.W.2, £2.0.0. Miss H. Hillman, 124 Walm Lane, N.W.2, £2.0.0. Mr. R. Stiebel, 3 Talbot Crescent, N.W.4, £2.0.0. Mr. and Mrs. Leifer, 70 Golders Manor Drive, N.W.11, £2.0.0. Mrs. J. Bogush, 27 Western Avenue, N.W.11, £2.0.0.

W. LONDON: Mr. Philip Franks, 81-85 Shaftesbury Avenue, W.1, £7.10.2. Mr. Eker, 86 Margaret Street, W.1, £5.5.0. Mr. O. Neufeld, 74 Berwick Street, W.1, £5.0.0. Mrs. Mendelson, 20 Nassau Street, W.1, £4.4.0. B. and G. Leather Cloths, 147 Cleveland Street, W.1, £2.4.0. Gran and Co., 27 Eastcastle Street, W.1, £2.4.0. Messrs. Hertie Ltd., 33 Margaret Street, W.1, £2.2.0. Messrs. V. Bright Ltd., 1-3 Mortimer Street, W.1, £2.0.0. Messrs. Jay and Son, 26 Percy Street, W.1, £2.0.0.

EDGWARE: Mr. A. D. Cohen, 38 Purcells Avenue, £3.5.3. Mr. Max Betel, 162 Edgwarebury Lane, £2.8.6. Mr. M. Herman, 96 Edgwarebury Lane, £2.4.0. Mr. G. S. Franks, 86 Hillside Gardens, £2.2.6. Mrs. Curtis, 3 Regent Court, Stonegrove, £2.2.0.

BLACKPOOL: Mr. S. Johnson, King George's Avenue, £12.0.0. Mr. Leffon, 178 Reads Avenue, £7.15.0. Mr. L. Sultan, 3 St. Clements Avenue, £6.12.0. Blackpool United Hebrew Congregation, £5.14.6. Mr. Melrose, 47 Poulton Road, Fleetwood, £3.0.0. Mr. D. I. Harris, 49 N. Park Drive, £2.2.0.

EASTBOURNE: Mrs. P. Panto, 18 Pashley Road, £3.4.6. Seligman Home, Elstree Meads Road, £2.7.6. Mrs. Rosengarten, 2 Victoria Mansions, £2.0.0.

GLASGOW: Mr. and Mrs. H. Benson, 21 Norbreck Drive, Giffnock, £12.4.0. Mrs. L. Mair, 20 Woodlands Road, £4.12.0. Mr. J. Miller, 7 Calderwood Road, S.3, £3.3.0. Mr. P. Salmon, 3 Carlawood Road, £3.0.0. Dr. M. Gaba, 5 Victoria Park Gardens South, W.2, £2.12.6. Mrs. M. Simons, 18 Carleton Drive, £2.12.0. Dr. R. Livingstone, 16 Tavistock Drive, S.3, £2.12.0. Mr. I. Naftalin, 8 Mulberry Road, S.3, £2.12.0. Mrs. D. Sragowitz, 12 Carleton Drive, £2.10.0. Mrs. S. Mail, 40 Calderwood Road, £2.5.0. Mrs. G. Jesner, 41 Braidholm Road, Giffnock, £2.3.0. Mr. and Mrs. S. Cina, 3 Deanton Drive, S.1, £2.2.0. Mrs. P. Samuel, 1 Ravenstone Drive, £2.0.0.

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